

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION**  
**COVER SHEET**

**SUBJECT: AMERICAN GI FORUM**  
**FBI # 62-96541**

Office K

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. W. LADD  
FROM : A. H. Belmont  
SUBJECT: AMERICAN GI FORUM OF TEXAS  
SPECIAL INQUIRY  
WHITE HOUSE

DATE: January 31, 1952

Mr. David Stowe, Administrative Assistant to the President, requested of Mr. Roach that the Bureau conduct a name search through its files on the American GI Forum of Texas located at Austin, Texas. Mr. Stowe stated that he had received considerable correspondence from this organization and desired to know what information the Bureau may have regarding it, both subversive and background data.

ACTION:

The Bureau files are being searched on this request, and you will be informed of the results and the information suitable for distribution to the White House.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/28/85 BY SP6BJA/lmw

SE 45

RECORDED

50 MAR 6 1952

**SECURITY INFORMATION -**

February 5, 1952

AMERICAN OIL FIELD OF TEXAS

## SUMMARY

No investigation has been conducted by this Bureau concerning the American GI Forum of Texas. However, a letterhead of this organization indicates that it is an independent veterans organization chartered under the State of Texas, with headquarters at 8024 Morgan Avenue, Corpus Christi, Texas. A check of our files reveals that the chairman and founder of this organization is Dr. Hector Perez Garcia, a dentist in Corpus Christi.

On September 18, 1948, [redacted] contacted this Bureau and advised that in a conversation she had had with [redacted]

Information was also received in December 1942 from [redacted] b7C VA [redacted], Veterans Administration, Lubbock, Texas, that [redacted] was connected with the GI Forum as a leader or representative and that the organization was critical of the Veterans Administration in its handling of Mexican-American veterans. (44-3540-3) LMS:5

ORIGINAL TO WHITE HOUSE

(Letter 2/9/32. - K)

100-443887-100

170  
171

25. Hc 90 E 9 6-3 SAC CH 177

RECO S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

INDEX

NOTED: 7-2-1952

894-100-

On April 12, 1950, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] in an interview with an Agent of this Bureau, volunteered information concerning [REDACTED] American GI Forum of Texas, a veterans organization founded in 1948, possessing approximately 10,000 members. b7C b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7C b7D

[REDACTED] b7C b7D

Another government agency advised this Bureau in August, 1950, that the American GI Forum was a Texas organization made up wholly of veterans of Latin American descent. This

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

agency advised that Dr. Hector Garcia was a man who was known to have political ambitions and while up to the present time it appeared that his sole interest and objective in the organization was that of endeavoring to better the general social and economic standards, especially in Texas, of the Latin Americans, there was considerable doubt as to his complete sincerity.

This agency also advised that the American GI Forum was a well-organized group and that it was suspected that the group might be receiving indirect assistance in its direction and also financial aid from the Communists. This agency pointed out that the real potentiality of this organization rested primarily with its leaders, who were capable and well-educated men. However, it was believed that the activities of this organization would bear particular watching since it had potentialities which, if used in the proper direction, could be most beneficial in helping to solve the many problems which existed in Texas, but for the same reason, should the Forum be controlled by subversive leaders, the consequences could result in a problem of very serious proportions and perhaps ultimately have an adverse effect on the United States' relations with Mexico. (Report of American Consulate, Reynosa, Mexico, Dept. of State, dated August 21, 1950; 100-7254-377)

An article in the McAllen, Texas, daily newspaper "Valley Evening Monitor" for August 20, 1950, reported concerning the proceedings of the American GI Forum of Texas Convention which was held in McAllen on August 19 and 20, 1950. The speakers at this convention were Dr. Hector Garcia, Dr. Carlos Castaneda of the University of Texas History Department, and Mrs. Adela Elliott of Austin, Texas, a leader in work for handicapped children.

The program of the American GI Forum, as pointed out by these speakers, included the stamping out of racial discrimination and the advancement of Texans of Mexican ancestry; the fighting of child labor by strict enforcement of the law plus the sponsorship of a back-to-school movement; and the sponsorship of a health education program. Dr. Garcia also pointed out that the Forum was at that time furnishing 40 college scholarships a year. (100-7254-377)

A check of this Bureau's indices concerning the speakers at this convention revealed no pertinent information concerning Mrs. Adela Elliott.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED]

The report of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 78th Congress, Second Session, Appendix, Part IX, lists Dr. Carlos Castaneda as one of the signers of the call to the First Congress of the Mexican and Spanish-American Peoples of the United States held on March 24, 25, and 26, 1939, at Albuquerque, New Mexico. This organization was cited by the House Un-American Activities Committee as a Communist front in 1944. (61-7582-1298, pg. 739)

On September 21, 1942, another government agency advised that an individual, who was connected with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(Censorship intercept IR-4000, 62-63736-2-13481)

The above information is furnished to you as a result of your request for an FBI file check only, and is not to be construed as a clearance or nonclearance of the organization or individuals involved. This information is furnished for your confidential use only and should not be disseminated.

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Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: February 5, 1952

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: AMERICAN GI FORUM OF TEXAS

SPECIAL INQUIRY - WHITE HOUSE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/28/85 BY SP6/DJA/TMNPURPOSE:

To advise you of the results of a file check concerning the American GI Forum of Texas.

BACKGROUND:

On January 31, 1952, Mr. David Stowe, Administrative Assistant to the President, telephonically requested any background or subversive information which this Bureau might have concerning the American GI Forum of Texas.

DETAILS:

All references concerning the American GI Forum of Texas have been reviewed. The Bureau files have also been searched for any available information concerning Dr. Hector Perez Garcia, founder and chairman of this organization, and Mrs. Adela Elliott and Dr. Carlos Castaneda, speakers at the State Convention of this organization held in McAllen, Texas, on August 19 and 20, 1950.

No investigation has been conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning this organization or any of the individuals known to have been connected with it. Information concerning this organization and the above-named individuals has been summarized in the attached memorandum for the White House.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the attached memorandum, if approved, be forwarded to the White House via the liaison channels.

Attachment

lmp:jmr

RECORDED - 78  
INDEXED - 78

FEB 13 1952

76 MAR 5 1952

EX-140

SAC, Houston 100-9638

March 24, 1952

Director, FBI

AMERICAN GI FORUM OF TEXAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

There are enclosed herewith for your information two Photostats of a memorandum dated February 5, 1952, summarizing the material in Bureau files concerning the captioned organization.

On the basis of the information in this enclosure, it appears that the American GI Forum of Texas may possibly be a Communist or Nationalist influenced or dominated organization. You are hereby instructed to furnish the Bureau with background information concerning the organizational structure, leadership, and activities of that group.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/28/85 BY SP4JA/IMW

RECORDED - 88

EX - 28

MAR 31 1952

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Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMM - FBI

MAR 24 1952

MAILED 28

MAR 31 3 02 PM '52

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI

RECEIVED MAR 28 1952

65 APR 8 1952



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

HOUSTON

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT MADE AT <b>HOUSTON, TEXAS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6-26-52</b>	1 - PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>23, 24, 5-2, 14; 6-10, 13-52</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> b7c ap(RD)
TITLE <b>AMERICAN GI FORUM OF TEXAS</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

PREVIOUS RECORDS  
OFFICES  
INDEXED

10/23/85 1812

AGENCY

REC'D  
FBI FORM

Y.

AMERICAN GI FORUM established at Corpus Christi, Texas by charter filed in office of Secretary of State, Austin, Texas, 12-8-49, for period of 50 years. Dr. HECTOR PEREZ GARCIA, JOE MONTOLYA and DON CONTRERAS, all of Corpus Christi, Texas, were original incorporators. Stated purpose of organization is to establish charitable, educational and benevolent society to render aid and assistance to individuals in Texas in needy circumstances, to provide school, lunches in elementary grades, to provide scholarships to worthy students and to seek improvement in educational facilities in general as authorized under Article 1302, Texas Revised Civil Statutes of 1925. AMERICAN GI FORUM dominated and controlled by Dr. HECTOR PEREZ GARCIA, Corpus Christi, with advice and help of others and does not meet with approval from all Latin Americans in Corpus Christi and vicinity. No evidence of subversive activity or infiltration by subversive groups in Corpus Christi.

DECLASSIFIED BY spubja/lmw P  
DETAILS 10/17/85

AT CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS:

The AMERICAN GI FORUM was organized at Corpus Christi Texas in 1946, by Dr. HECTOR PEREZ GARCIA, Corpus Christi dentist. An examination of Charter #1122 was made at the Secretary of State's Office, Capitol

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <u>[Signature]</u>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>SECURITY INFORMATION</b> <b>2-496541-5</b>	RECORDED-17
COPIES OF THIS REPORT	17 JUN 30 1952	INDEXED-17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Bureau</li> <li>2 San Antonio (100-7842)</li> <li>1 El Paso (Info.)</li> <li>1 Dallas (Info.)</li> <li>1 Albuquerque (Info.)</li> <li>1 OSI, Kelley Field, San Antonio (RM)</li> <li>1 C-2, A.C. of S., 4th Army, San Antonio (RM)</li> </ul>		

PROPERTY OF FBI—This confidential report and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI and are not to be distributed outside of agency to which loaned.

HO #100 -8638

(continued)

1 ONI, 8th Naval District, New Orleans, Louisiana (RM)  
4 Houston (100-8638)

HO #100-8638

Building, Austin, Texas, which reflected the application for the charter of the AMERICAN GI FORUM was filed in that office on December 8, 1949, for a period of 50 years.

The Articles of Incorporation reflected the purpose of the organization was to establish a charitable, educational and benevolent society to wit; "To render aid and assistance to those individuals in the State of Texas, who are in needy circumstances; to provide scholarships for worthy students; to provide school lunches in elementary grades; to seek improvement of educational facilities in general, as authorized under Article 1302, Texas Revised Civil Statutes of 1925."

Article 3 of the Articles of Incorporation provide the business of the corporation is to be transacted in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas and elsewhere.

Article 4 sets out the term of existence of the corporation to be 50 years.

Article 5 states the number of Directors of the corporation shall be 10, and the names and addresses of the Directors for the first year are as follows:

HECTOR P. GARCIA,	634 Ohio Street, Corpus Christi, Texas;
ARSENIO RESENDEZ,	2243 Howard Street, Corpus Christi, Texas;
JOE MONTTOYA,	1329 Laredo Street, Corpus Christi, Texas;
DON CONTRERAS,	904 19th Street, Corpus Christi, Texas;
JOSE GUEVA,	Box 492, Robstown, Texas;
JOE ZAPATA,	Box 464, Sinton, Texas;
FRANK CHAPA,	701 West Corpus Christi St., Beeville, Texas;
JOE ESPINOSA,	Box 92, Woodsboro, Texas;
FELIX SANDOVAL,	Box 337, Bishop, Texas;
ISAAC BARYAS,	Box 43, Taylor, Texas.

The incorporators of this organization were listed as HECTOR P. GARCIA, JOE MONTTOYA, and DON CONTRERAS. The articles of incorporation reflected they were drawn up in Bexar County, December 5, 1949, and notarized before Notary Public JUEB I. RODRIGUEZ, on the same date. The filing fee of \$10.00 was paid December 8, 1949, and a certified copy of the articles of incorporation was mailed to GUS GARCIA, 219 International Building, San Antonio, Texas.

b7c  
b7D

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

21 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

         Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

         Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-96541-5 pgs. 3-6

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
 X FOR THIS PAGE X  
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

HO#100-8638

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7d

Veterans Administration, Lubbock, Texas, stated that Dr. GARCIA, representing the American GI Forum had been very critical of the Veterans Administration in its handling of Mexican-American affairs concerning veterans.

b7c  
VA

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7d

HO # 100-8638

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7d  
1

[REDACTED]

In August, 1950, T-4, of unknown reliability, advised the FBI that the American GI Forum was a Texas organization made up wholly of veterans of Latin American descent. It was further advised that Dr. ECTOR GARCIA was a man who was known to have political ambitions, and that while up to the present time it appeared his sole interest and objective in the organization was that of endeavoring to better the general social and economic standards, especially in Texas, of Latin Americans, there was considerable doubt as to his complete sincerity. It was advised the American GI Forum is a well organized group and that it was suspected the group might be receiving indirect assistance in its direction, and also financial aid from the Communists. It was pointed out the real potentiality of this organization rested with its leaders who were capable and educated men.

State

HO #100-8538

An article in the McAllen, Texas daily newspaper, "Valley Evening Monitor" dated August 20, 1950, reported concerning the proceedings of the convention of the American GI Forum held at McAllen, Texas on August 19, 20, 1950. Speakers at this convention were Dr. HECTOR GARCIA, Dr. CARLOS CASTENEDA, of the University of Texas History Department, and Mrs. ADELA ELLIOTT, of Austin, Texas, a leader in work for handicapped children. The program of the American GI Forum, as pointed out by these speakers included the stamping out of racial discrimination and the advancement of Texans of Mexican ancestry; the fighting of child labor by strict enforcement of the law plus a sponsorship of the back to school movement; and the sponsorship of a health education program. Dr. GARCIA also pointed out that the American GI Forum was furnishing 40 college scholarships a year.

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

The report of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 78th Congress, Second Session, Appendix, Part IX, stated Dr. CASTENEDA is one of the signers of the call to the First Congress of the Mexican and Spanish-American Peoples of the United States held on March 24, 25 and 26, 1939, at Albuquerque, New Mexico. This organization was cited by the House Un-American Activities Committee as a Communist Front in 1944.

On September 21, 1942, [REDACTED] of unknown reliability, advised that an [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

On December 31, 1950, Dr. HECTOR GARCIA addressed a letter to the National Guardian, Murray Street, New York City, New York, as follows:

HO #100-8638

"Dear Editor:

Could you please stop sending me the Guardian. I do not know, who ordered it sent to me originally, but I did not. This Veterans Organization does not approve of your attacks on President Truman and General MacArthur.

A great percentage of the membership of this GI Forum is now back in the service of our country and perhaps many more will be called back. We are proud of our contributions to our country and we believe in national preparedness and also in universal military training.

It is true that we represent a minority group that has had suffering and hardships, but we have no quarrel or criticism with our Federal government since they have always been willing to help us with our problems. Certainly our present President as well as President ROOSEVELT did very much for the betterment of our people. We have implicit faith that in due time we will have complete justice with all people as long as we have presidents like TRUMAN and ROOSEVELT.

The Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice is doing a good job and has always helped us with our problems. I believe that locally many things can be remedied, but we are definitely against attacks of our government on a national level. So please don't send me the Guardian anymore.

HECTOR P. GARCIA, M.D.  
CHAIRMAN  
AMERICAN GI FORUM OF TEXAS"

CC: C.R.S. Dept. of Attorney General  
Local Fed. Bureau of Investigation  
U.S. Post Office, Postmaster General  
General Douglas MacArthur.

P E N D I N G



100-443887-100

HO #100-8638

## ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

LEADS

SAN ANTONIO OFFICE

AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS:

Will ascertain the background, sympathies and activities of [REDACTED] as regards the American GI Forum.

Will ascertain sources of information set forth in San Antonio memo to Houston dated 8-14-50. [REDACTED]

AT AUSTIN, TEXAS:

Will ascertain background, sympathies and activities of [REDACTED], American GI Forum.

Will report any known association of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] with American GI Forum.

HOUSTON OFFICE

AT CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS:

Will report results of re-contact with confidential informants in Corpus Christi regarding the American GI Forum.

[REDACTED]

HO #100-8638

[REDACTED]

b2  
b7C  
b7D

T-4, is reported to be a government agency as set forth in Bureau memorandum February 5, 1952, furnished Houston by Bureau Memo, dated 3-24-52.

State

b2  
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[REDACTED]

T-6, is reported to be a government agency, as set forth in Bureau memo dated February 5, 1952, furnished Houston 3-24-52.

REFERENCE

Bureau memo to Houston, dated March 24, 1952.

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~EX~~

Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney  
Criminal Division

July 28, 1952

Director, FBI

AMERICAN GI FORUM OF TEXAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
FBI file 62-96541

Enclosed is a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 26, 1952, at Houston, Texas, <sup>b7C</sup> concerning the activities of the captioned organization.

You may wish to examine this report in detail in connection with the provisions of Executive Order 9835.

Enclosure

RECORDED - 9

62-96541-5

EX-3

DECLASSIFIED BY spubja/lmw  
ON 8/28/85

JUL 28 6 48 PM '52  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

☐ Tolson  
☐ Ladd  
☐ Nichols  
☐ Belmont  
☐ Clegg  
☐ Glavin  
☐ Harbo  
☐ Rosen  
☐ Tracy  
☐ Laughlin  
☐ Mohr  
☐ Tele. Rm.  
☐ Holloman  
☐ Gandy

COMM - FBI  
JUL 29 1952  
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63 AUG 11 1952 SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

SAC, Houston (100-8638)

July 28, 1952

Director, FBI (62-96541)

AMERICAN GI FORUM OF TEXAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Rerep of SA [REDACTED] dated June 26, 1952, b7C  
in captioned matter.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 87-D  
of the Manual of Instructions, six copies of future reports  
in this matter should be designated for the Bureau.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/28/85 BY sp6bjd/lmw

JUL 28 6 48 PM '52  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI

RECORDED - 7

JUL 31 1952

EX-121

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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COMM - FBI  
JUL 29 1952  
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✓ 112 REC: 104  
E 81  
SERIAL 1000  
b7C

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **HOUSTON**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

FILE NO.

WJW

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10/21/52</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/16,17;10/7,13,14/52</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <i>b7c</i>
TITLE <b>AMERICAN GI FORUM OF TEXAS</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b> <b>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.</b> <i>b7c</i>	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 40%;"> <p><i>cc Brown, OSF 11-7-52</i></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>In January 1952, GARCIA made address denouncing "anti-Communist witch-hunt" as "national malady". ED IDAR is State Chairman of GI Forum. Dr. GEORGE SANCHEZ was guest at State Convention of Forum in San Antonio 7/52.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> </div> <div style="width: 55%;"> <p><i>AGENCY: State</i></p> <p>REQ. REC'D <u>8-5-57</u></p> <p>REP'T FORW. <u>8-20-57</u></p> <p>BY <u>[REDACTED]</u></p> </div> </div>			
DETAILS:  <p><i>100-DR. 11-6-52</i></p> <p><u>At San Antonio, Texas:</u></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>			

FOI/P # 100-400  
 APPEAL # 1356  
 CIVIL ACT. # 100-400  
 E.O. # 100-400  
 DATE 11/14/52

Classified by ADL/Dial/mw  
 Declassify on: OADR 8/30/85

**5-1 is CIA COPY IN FILE**

- COPIES OF THIS REPORT
- 5 - Bureau
  - 4 - Houston (100-8638)
  - 2 - San Antonio (100-7842)

**62-96541-7**  
**OCT 28 1952**

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 INDEXED - 68

**66 NOV 13 1952**

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

**CONFIDENTIAL**

SA #100-7842

[REDACTED] b2  
[REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED] b7d  
[REDACTED] b1  
[REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED] P.O.

of known reliability, on February 14, 1949, advised that  
CLAUDE WILLIAMS, National Director of the People's Institute of Applied Religion,  
corresponded with [REDACTED] Majestic Building, San Antonio, Texas. The People's  
Institute of Applied Religion was designated by the Attorney General of the  
United States as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835

The Daily Worker is an East Coast Communist newspaper. It's  
January 23, 1952, edition contained an article dated January 22, 1952, at  
Laredo, Texas, entitled "Laredo Lions Club Hears Plea Against War and Bias".  
This article stated "A plea for international understanding and peace, and a  
denunciation of the anti-Communist witch-hunt and of discrimination against  
the negro people, featured a Laredo Lions Club luncheon address by GUS C.  
GARCIA, San Antonio Attorney. GARCIA termed the witch-hunt the "national  
malady" and added: 'Here at home, what I consider to be the most serious  
problem of the day is this national hysteria in regard to subversive doctrines  
'and elements'. He declared that 'People are tired of War, and except for  
a fortunate few at the top, they are tired of greed'."

The January 29, 1952, edition of the San Antonio Evening News  
contained an article reflecting that GARCIA made a speech before the National  
Congress for the United Nations in New York City regarding problems of the  
Mexican-Americans in the Southwest.

The San Antonio Light dated February 10, 1952, contained an  
article entitled "GARCIA Rejects Alien Labor Post" wherein GUS GARCIA, San  
Antonio, was identified as the General Counsel of the American GI Forum of  
Texas. According to this article, GARCIA had been told that he could have a  
job as Special Assistant to the Attorney General in the Civil Rights Division  
of the U. S. Department of Justice but had declined the offer. The article  
reflected that GARCIA was guest of honor at a meeting in the Senate Office Build-  
ing that week where Washington representatives of 45 National organizations  
pledged "not to quit until a Federal Commission on migratory labor is estab-  
lished".

The San Antonio Express dated February 13, 1952, contained an  
article entitled, "GARCIA to Report on Washington", which reflected that on  
the evening of February 13, 1952, GARCIA was scheduled to "report from  
Washington", and that among the out-of-town guests would be Dr. GEORGE I. SANCHEZ,  
EDWARD R. JR., Austin, Texas, State Chairman of the American GI Forum, and Dr.  
HECTOR F. GARCIA, Corpus Christi, Texas, founder and Vice President of the  
American GI Forum.

SA #100-7842

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The San Antonio Evening News dated February 28, 1952, contained an article wherein GUS C. GARCIA was identified as a member of the San Antonio School Board. This article reflected that GARCIA was Chief Counsel for the American GI Forum and in a speech before that group in Del Rio, Texas, advised of his recent visit to Washington and conference with President TRUMAN regarding minority group problems in the Southwest.

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b7c  
b7d

**CONFIDENTIAL**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] exhibited the latest edition of "The Appeal" Volume #1, #8, published at St. Louis, Missouri. b2 b7D

Page 6 of this edition contains an article entitled "A Message From GARCIA" which quoted from an address delivered by GUS C. GARCIA, Delegate to a recent UNESCO conference, at his testimonial dinner in San Antonio, Texas. The article contained in part the following:

"What I consider to be the most serious problem of the day is this national hysteria in regard to subversive doctrines and elements which has in turn created an era called by a leading newspaper man 'the worst epoch of witch-hunting since the Middle Ages.' I am speaking, of course, of what has come to be the commonly accepted practice to classify as a subversive or radical or worse every person who is a non-conformist, or who disagrees with the opinion of the majority, or who does any original thinking of his own. Personally, I believe that the term 'witch-hunting' is not quite appropos. I think that this national malady can be more accurately described as a combination of the big -lie and name-calling. The latter can also be termed 'labeling'. We all know what 'the big lie' is - the technique cultivated by ADOLPH HITLER to its greatest effectiveness.

"It is a sad commentary indeed, when we have attained the highest scientific and industrial achievement in the history of man, our political life on a local, state and national basis is dominated for the most part by opportunists, patrioteers, fakers, phonies and demagogues of the lowest order.

"Human beings in Murmansk, Cairo, Manila and Pusan, in Des Moines and in San Antonio are seeking essentially the same thing: a better way of life. People are tired of war and, except for an avaricious few at the top, they are also tired of greed."

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b2  
b7c  
b7d

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] b2 b7c b7D

[REDACTED]

The San Antonio Light, on August 29, 1952, contained an article which reflected that GUS GARCIA intended to resign in the near future from the school board, and that he planned to reside in McAllen, Texas, and practice law in Edinburg, Texas.

[REDACTED] b2 b7c b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] called at the San Antonio Office and advised that he was concerned over the fact that some newspaper articles had accused the American Council of Spanish-Speaking People of being a Communist front.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. He advised that there is no Communist infiltration in either of these above-mentioned organizations, to his knowledge. He stated he is well acquainted with most of the Latin-American organizations in Southwestern and Western United States, and that the only interest of the organizations with which he is connected is to improve the conditions of the Latin-American element in the United States.

at Austin, Texas:

[REDACTED] The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], of known reliability, furnished the following information: b2, b7D

[REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] continued, stating that the Daily Worker, date unknown, reported a "newly formed American Council of Spanish-speaking People to fight flagrant violations of the rights of Mexican Americans and to act as a clearing house for existing organizations in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and California". This article, according to Informant, revealed that ED IDAR, JR., was Assistant Director of this newly formed organization. b2 b7c b7D

[REDACTED] concluded by remarking that he had no reason to believe that either [REDACTED] have any Communistic sympathies or are disloyal. b2 b7c b7D

[REDACTED] both of known reliability, and both of whom have some knowledge of Communist activities in Austin, Texas, advised that they had no information concerning any Communist activity on the part of either [REDACTED] b2 b7D b7c

The July 3, 1952, edition of the San Antonio Express contained an article which reflected that Dr. GEORGE I. SANCHEZ had resigned from the Texas Council on Human Relations because lack of support made it unoperative. This article further stated that a copy of Dr. SANCHEZ's letter of resignation to Governor SHIVERS was sent to the American GI Forum. In his letter, according to the article, Dr. SANCHEZ stated that he works very closely with the American GI Forum, and that he valued most highly its good opinion and support.

The San Antonio Express dated July 3, 1952, contained an article stating that Dr. GEORGE I. SANCHEZ, University of Texas, was expected to be a guest at the State Convention of the American GI Forum in San Antonio on July 4-6, 1952.

- R U C -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Referenced report requested the identity of the source of information set forth in San Antonio letter to Houston dated August 14, 1952, described in this letter as [REDACTED]

b7D

b7C

The indices of this office have numerous references regarding [REDACTED]. The information set out in this report pertaining to [REDACTED] is only information reflecting his known association with the American GI Forum.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The confidential informants mentioned in the report of SA [REDACTED] dated October 21, 1952, at San Antonio are identified as follows:

b7C

b1

(C)

[Handwritten signature]

b2  
b7C  
b7

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**CONFIDENTIAL**

b2  
b7C  
b7D  
1  
b7C  
P.O.

b7c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

HOUSTON

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT HOUSTON, TEXAS	DATE WHEN MADE OCT 28 1952	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/23; 8/20; 9/17; 10/2,7,8/52	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c krs
TITLE AMERICAN G.I. FORUM OF TEXAS		AGENCY <u>State</u> REQ. REC'D <u>5-5-57</u> REP'T FORW. <u>5-20-57</u> BY <u>[REDACTED]</u>	CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <p>APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF <u>DATE 10-24-55</u> <u>1916</u></p> <p>[REDACTED] DR. GARCIA, leader of AMERICAN G.I. FORUM at Corpus Christi, state no evidence of communist infiltration in Corpus Christi area and that forum taking active interest in local, state and national politics and also advised assistance rendered to local bus drivers on strike by way of moral support. b7D</p> <p>DECLASSIFIED BY <u>SP6/bja/lmw</u> ON <u>8/28/85</u></p> <p>AT CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS</p> <p>[REDACTED], who are believed to be reliable, were re-contacted and both advised [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] they have been unable to develop any information indicating any interest by communist groups or individuals sympathetic with communism in those connected with the forum. b2 b7D</p> <p>[REDACTED] DR. GARCIA has encouraged forum members to take an active part in city, state and national politics [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 62-96541-8 OCT 28 1952 [Signature]		
COPY IN FILE COPIES OF THIS REPORT Bureau (62-96541)	RECORDED - 96 INDEXED - 96 EX - 13		

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67 NOV 10 1952

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

Copies of this report:

- 6 - Bureau (62-96541)
- 1 - Albuquerque (Infor.)
- 1 - Dallas (Infor.)
- 1 - El Paso (Infor.)
- 1 - G-2, A.C. of S., 4th Army  
San Antonio (RM)
- 1 - OSI, Kelly Field, San Antonio (RM)
- 2 - San Antonio (100-7842)
- 3 - Houston (100-8638)

\* \* \* \*

DETAILS:

[REDACTED] advised that recently DR. HECTOR GARCIA and JOE GARCIA, a Corpus Christi realtor, and member of the forum, addressed the striking members of the local bus drivers union in connection with a strike currently being conducted by the local chapter of the C.I.O. against the Nueces Transportation Company seeking higher wages and improved working conditions.

[REDACTED] stated that both DR. GARCIA and JOE GARCIA emphasized that in cities of comparable size to Corpus Christi, the transportation workers were not only better paid but received additional benefits such as paid vacations, retirement benefits and health and accident benefits but the local employees do not receive such benefits. He states these speeches were made to encourage the bus drivers who are largely of Latin-American descent, to continue their strike.

[REDACTED] stated that he believed the local officers of the Transportation Workers Union were members of the forum and therefore induced DR. GARCIA and JOE GARCIA to address them.

[REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

### Identity of Informants

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b2  
b7C  
b7D

\*\*\*

Copies of this and reference report are being designated to the El Paso, Dallas and Albuquerque Offices for information purposes in view of possible activity of the AMERICAN G.I. FORUM in those divisions.

LEADS

**SAN ANTONIO OFFICE**

At San Antonio, Texas

- \* Will ascertain the background, sympathies and activities of [redacted] as regards the AMERICAN G.I. FORUM.
- \* Will ascertain sources of information set forth in San Antonio memo to Houston dated August 14, 1950. [redacted]

\* Will ascertain sources of information set forth in San Antonio memo to Houston dated August 14, 1950. [REDACTED]

\* At Austin, Texas

Will ascertain background, sympathies and activities of

- \* Will report any known association of [REDACTED] with AMERICAN G.I. FORUM.

REFERENCE Report of SA [REDACTED], Houston, June 26, 1952.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

FORM NO. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **HOUSTON**

REPORT MADE AT <b>HOUSTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>DEC 8 1952</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/15; 11/25/52</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] b7c</b>
TITLE <b>AMERICAN G.I. FORUM OF TEXAS</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

DECLASSIFIED BY **SP6/DJA/1mw**  
ON **8/28/85**

Confidential Informants state no further information of significance to report concerning activities of American G.I. Forum in Corpus Christi area. Information received that branch founded in El Paso, Texas, [REDACTED] No evidence of Communist infiltration or influence reported.

*cc DE L, ONIC, 051  
12-22-52 - gow - sec*

- C -  
*sec*

AGENCY FILE *State*  
REQ. REC'D **8-18-57**  
REP'T FORW. **8-19-57**  
BY *W. H. [REDACTED]*

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF **DEC 10/23/52**  
DATE **10/23/52**

DETAILS: At Corpus Christi, Texas.

[REDACTED] he has detected nothing in the attitude of the leaders or members of this organization to indicate any Communist influence. He stated the organization has proceeded along the same lines as heretofore, that is, combating unfavorable reference to Latin Americans and drawing attention to any acts of alleged discrimination toward these people. He stated there have been no incidents of this nature come to his attention, however, since the date of the last contact by the reporting Agent.

[REDACTED] who is believed to be reliable, stated there has been no incident of unusual outside activity come to his attention with reference to the American G.I. Forum, and stated it

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>COPY IN FILE</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (6) - Bureau (62-96541) (RM) 1 - ONI, New Orleans (RM) 1 - G-2, A.C.OF S., 4th Army, San Antonio (RM) 1 - OSI, Kelly Field, San Antonio (RM) 2 - Houston (100-8638)		<b>62-96541-9</b> <b>DEC 12 1952</b> <b>24</b> <b>STAT. [REDACTED]</b>	<b>RECORDED-12</b> <b>INDEXED-12</b> <b>EX - 107</b>

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79 JAN 5 - 1953

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL



HO 100-8639

[REDACTED] b7D  
that there have been no Communist influence exerted against the members or leadership of the Forum. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

On October 15, 1952, the El Paso Office advised that [REDACTED] El Paso, Texas, reported the American G.I. Forum, had been organized in El Paso by Dr. HECTOR GARCIA, and has approximately 86 members in El Paso. He stated the organization was attempting to gain new members. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] b7C b7D  
[REDACTED] b7C b7D

The El Paso Office further advised that no information had been received by that Office indicating any un-American activities by the members or leaders of the American G.I. Forum in the El Paso area.

- C -

HO 100-8639

INFORMANTS

[REDACTED]

b2  
b7c  
b7D

[REDACTED]

REFERENCE

Report of SA [REDACTED] dated 10/23/52 at Houston,  
Texas.

b7C

STATE OFFICERS

AMEY IN GI FORUM OF TEXAS  
INDEPENDENT VETERANS ORGANIZATION

C  
O  
P  
Y

Ed Idar, Jr., Chairman 310 Nalle Building  
Austin Austin, Texas

Trinidad Gonzales, Vice-Chairman  
Edinburg

Mrs. Richard Pena, Vice-Chairman  
San Antonio

Richard Casillas, Secretary  
San Antonio

Lalo Campos, Treasurer  
Austin

Frank M. Pinedo, Legal Advisor  
Austin

Fr. Erwin A. Juraschek, Chaplain  
Austin

May 15, 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/28/85 BY SP6bjg/lmw

Mr. Willard Kelly  
Assistant Commissioner of Immigration  
U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kelly:

In company with [REDACTED] of Rio Grande City, Texas, I am engaged in a survey of the Texas border from El Paso to Brownsville in connection with the Wetback problem. As part of our field work we have conferred with [REDACTED] at San Antonio and [REDACTED] at El Paso. We hope that our survey, which will include pictorial documentation, will be completed in time to be of value when the Congress reopens consideration of the McCarran Immigration Act. b7c

One of the facts of the problem which we feel has not been explored adequately in the past is the threat which an open border, particularly from Del Rio to El Paso, poses to the internal security of the United States. We hope to explore this facet under the expectation that it presents an opportunity that can serve to arouse more interest in the Congress on the overall problem.

We have been advised that the Federal Bureau of Investigation recently released a report that shows the total number of aliens in the United States who are members of the Communist Party. We are wondering if your office has information at hand that could break this total down into the major nationality groupings such as Mexican and if such information could be released for use in our survey and eventual publication.

If the information can be released, we would also like to know the total number of persons and their nationality who have been deported as illegal aliens and for subversive charges from the ports of entry along the Mexican border. Finally, in view of the increasing public concern about the infiltration of Communist elements into the government of Guatemala, we would like to know if any Guatemalan nationals have been deported in recent months. We know, for example, of one instance along the Mexican border recently where a carload of Guatemalan nationals traveling with false Mexican papers was detained and deportation subsequently effected.

Sincerely yours

s/ Ed Idar, Jr.  
Chairman

62-96541-10

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☒ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
62-96541-10

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

June 3, 1953

RECORDED - 106  
INDEXED - 106

62-96541-10  
Mr. E. Idar, Jr., Chairman  
American GI Forum of Texas  
310 Halle Building  
Austin, Texas

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/31/85 BY SP6 BJA/IMN

Dear Mr. Idar:

I am in receipt of a copy of your letter dated May 15, 1953, which you directed to the Immigration and Naturalization Service and which was referred to me by that Agency.

While I would like to be of assistance in connection with your request, I find that the recent statement which you attribute to the FBI was not made by any representative of this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc - Houston (with copies of incoming and enclosure)  
cc - San Antonio (with copies of incoming and enclosure)  
cc - Dallas (with copies of incoming and enclosure)  
cc - El Paso (with copies of incoming and enclosure)

Bureau files reflect the American GI Forum of Texas is the subject of a closed Internal Security - C case, Houston origin, Houston file 100-8638, San Antonio file 100-7842. Report of SA [redacted] San Antonio, October 21, 1952, in this matter reflects [redacted]

[redacted] Correspondent is State Chairman of this organization. In report of SA [redacted], Houston, June 26, 1952, there is set out information obtained from [redacted]

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_

COMM - FBI  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JUN - 3 '53  
MAILED 27

JUN 1 1953  
RECEIVED - FBI  
b7c  
b7d

[REDACTED] b7c b7d

[REDACTED]

(44-4714-8 & 16)

Statement to which correspondent refers and attributes to FBI apparently is statement made by the Attorney General on March 17, 1953, at annual dinner of the Society of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick at New York City to the effect that nearly ten thousand naturalized citizens and almost twelve thousand aliens are under investigation for possible red links in a campaign to rid the nation of subversives. According to press reports the Attorney General stated that nearly ten thousand naturalized citizens are believed to be or to have been engaged in subversive activities or affiliated with the Communist Party. (62-98134-191)

NOTE ON YELLOW ONLY:

Statement of Attorney General referred to above was subject of memorandum March 18, 1953, for information of the Director. (62-98134-191)

American GI Forum of Texas was established by charter filed on December 8, 1948, at Austin, Texas. Its purpose is to establish charitable, educational and benevolent society to render assistance to individuals in Texas in needy circumstances. (62-96541)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE OFFICERS**

Ed Idar, Jr., Chairman  
Austin

Trinidad Gonzales, Vice-Chairman  
Edinburg

Mrs. Richard Pena, Vice-Chairman  
San Antonio

Richard Casillas, Secretary  
San Antonio

Lalo Campos, Treasurer  
Austin

Frank M. Pinedo, Legal Advisor  
Austin

Fr. Erwin A. Juraschek, Chaplain  
Austin

**AMERICAN GI FORUM &  
INDEPENDENT VETERANS ORGANIZATION**

310 NALLE BUILDING

PHONE: 8-2410

AUSTIN, TEXAS

**OF DIRECTORS:**

Jarcia, Corpus Christi,  
Chairman  
Jo Ozuna, Del Rio  
o Trevino, Kenedy  
rt Garcia, Fort Worth  
omas Morales, Lubbock  
Frank Chapa, Beeville  
Dan Garcia, Cotulla  
Chris Aldrete, Del Rio  
Johnny Villalobos, Lubbock  
Epifanio Paz, Sinton  
Tomas D. Gomez, Lamesa  
Manuel Benavides, Falfurrias  
Frank Castaneda, San Marcos  
Charley Kidder, El Campo  
Joseph Rey, El Paso  
Elias Olivarez, McAllen  
Mike Ferdin, Corpus Christi  
Gregorio Coronado, New Braunfels  
Henry Velez, San Angelo  
Marcos Medrano, Rotan  
A. H. Cardenas, McAllen  
Noe Leyva, Big Spring  
Jose A. Rodriguez, Sweetwater  
Ernest Guzman, Edinburg  
Paul Lugo, Kingsville  
Noel Villarreal, Falfurrias  
Carlos Velasquez, Eagle Pass  
Jimmy Vega, Taylor  
Albert A. Pena, Jr., San Antonio  
Santana Villarreal, San Antonio

June 9, 1953

Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

*TEY*  
This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter to  
Mr. Idar dated June 3. Mr. Idar is out of the  
city now and will not return until approximately  
June 18 or 19. On his return, his attention  
will be called to your letter for reply.

Very truly yours,

*bnc*  
*[Signature]*

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/29/85 BY SP6BJA/1MN

INDEXED-55  
NOT RECORDED

62-96541-11

25 JUN 17 1953

WB 70ME2

79 JUN 26 1953

Ed Ider, Jr., Chairman  
Austin

Trinidad Gonzales, Vice-Chairman  
Edinburg

Mrs. Richard Pena, Vice-Chairman  
San Antonio

Richard Casillas, Secretary  
San Antonio

Lalo Campos, Treasurer  
Austin

Frank M. Pinedo, Legal Advisor  
Austin

# AMERICAN GI FORUM OF TEXAS

## INDEPENDENT VETERANS ORGANIZATION

CHARTERED UNDER THE STATE OF TEXAS  
HECTOR P. GARCIA, M.D. - CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

3024 MORGAN AVE.

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

Nov. 20, 1953

### DIRECTORS:

Mr. Tolson	Martinez, Asherton
Mr. Ladd	izuna, Del Rio
Mr. Nichols	olina, Edna
Mr. Belmont	ovino, Kenedy
Mr. Clegg	urcia, Fort Worth
Mr. Glavin	gio Perez, Sanderson
Mr. Harbo	Ibarra, Lamesa
Mr. Rosen	rales, Lubbock
Mr. Tracy	aricio, San Antonio
Mr. Gearty	pa, Beeville
Mr. Mohr	a, Cotulla
Mr. Winterrowd	rete, Del Rio
Tele. Room	o, Fort Worth
Mr. Holloman	alobos, Lubbock
Miss Gandy	artinez, Sonora
	z, Sinton
	omez, Lamesa
	avidez, Fairfuries
	aneda, San Marcos
	riguez, Abilene
	der, El Campo
	El Paso

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Enclosed you will find copies of letters that were sent to Attorney General Herbert Brownell concerning the [redacted] and the [redacted]. We believe that conditions here in Corpus Christi have not improved much as far as "Police Brutality" towards the American people of Mexican origin. We believe that there has been little or no improvement since the police beat up [redacted] last year nearly killing the man.

We respectfully and humbly request that your Department take action in investigating these two cases and if possible to take action so that the brutality and sadism of police officers in this city stop as soon as possible. Certainly when the police act like they did in the [redacted] they have no respect for anyone and they should not even be "Peace Officers".

We would like to take this opportunity first to thank you for the fine work that you have done in the protection of our country against the Communistic enemies within and without our country. We believe that his country and all its people owe you and your Department so much that we would be unable to repay it in anyway. We would like to encourage you to keep up your good work until the last Communist is gone. Secondly we would like to thank you for the fine attention, cooperation and help that your Department has given us in our "Civil Rights Case".

But more than all Mr. Hoover, we wish to thank you as a minority group for giving us the feeling that in spite of local prejudices against our people there is still a great, impartial, and just Government in Washington and that Government for all people is represented to us typically in the person of J. Edgar Hoover.

RECORDED-99  
INDEXED-99

DEC 8 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/29/85 BY sp/bja/lmw/2

EXP. PROC.  
NOV 23 1953

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED



and the Department of Justice.

Our people's faith in our Government and in our institutions received great encouragement when an indictment was secured in Corpus Christi because of the flogging of one of our "Mexican-American Girls" in the Corpus Christi Area. However that case did not deter the city detectives from beating up an innocent minor as proven in the [REDACTED] case. b7c

We hope and pray Mr. Hoover, that after careful consideration in this matter that you send someone from your Department to help us with a very sad and serious situation here. I am sure that this is not the only time that such cases have been reported to your Department from this area. We beg you to please remember that our men, that is the Mexican-Americans are the most loyal to their country and they are the first to fight against Russia any time that our Government feels we should. Please remember that our faith in our country lies in our feeling and believing that although Justice may be slow we will always find it in the hands and in the hearts of men like you.

Respectfully yours,

*Hector P. Garcia M.D.*  
Hector P. Garcia M.D.

Chairman Board of Directors American G.I.  
Forum of Texas.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7c

3024 Morgan  
Corpus Christi, Texas  
Dr. Hector P. Garcia

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/29/85 BY sp6bjal/mw

ENCLOSURE

62-96541-121

Note: Copy of Letter on " [REDACTED]

November 2, 1953

Honorable Herbert Brownell, Jr.  
Attorney General of the United States  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/29/85 BY SP6KJA/IM

Dear Attorney General Brownell:

The American G.I. Forum of Texas, an organization of Veterans composed primarily of American War Veterans of Mexican Origin, kindly and respectfully request your office, your Department, and the Civil Rights Section of your Department to make an investigation of the [REDACTED]. We respectfully request that after a careful investigation that your Department take the proper action to bring the guilty officers to trial, since we believe that this is a clear cut case of violation of civil rights of our citizens as guaranteed by our American Constitution. [REDACTED]

At the same time we would like to thank your Department for action in other cases that we have requested your investigation. However, in spite of your efforts, and investigations, etc., we feel that such cases are still too prevalent in Texas amongst citizens and more so against the American People of Mexican extraction. During the last year we have had at least six major cases where we believe that violations of constitutional rights of our people have occurred at the hands of Texas police officers. We feel that something must be done to stop this needless brutality, sadism, and ill feeling towards our people. We feel that the local authorities, in most cases, do not make effort to screen their officers as to their prejudices or feelings towards our people and consequently they hire a good number who still think that they can do what they wish with our people even as far as taking away their lives. About a year ago or so we reported the [REDACTED] wherein one of our citizens was severely beaten up by police of this city. I attended the citizen myself and still have photographic evidence of the brutal beating that he received. We reported the case to the local F.B.I., at that time. We also reported a killing of one of our citizens by [REDACTED]. We also asked investigation from your Department of a killing of two Vega Brothers in Taylor, Texas. The brutal picture goes on and on like that; and we feel that we should not be treated like that by any police officers.

b7c

Honorable Herbert ( Brownell, Jr., Continued Page ) 2 ...

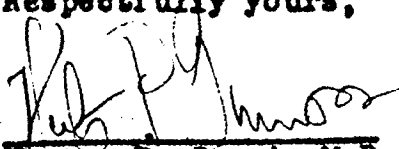
After careful study of the [redacted]; we feel that the [redacted] had no authority or right to try to get a man out of his home without a warrant! We feel he had no right to trespass into their home, property and car! We feel that the calling of 7 or 8 more police officers was unnecessary, and we feel that the shooting of the tire and the breaking of the window were brutal and sadistic. We feel that [redacted] as well as the other seven or eight officers were guilty of violation of the [redacted] rights and specifically their tactics were illegal and unhumanitarian. We believe that the threat to life and to property as shown by all the police officers was a poor spectacle for so called "peace officers" to display. The fact that [redacted] was handcuffed and taken into the police car show that the arrest was illegal. In our mind [redacted] had done nothing to deserve this police action, he had committed no felony or misdemeanor; he was within the confines of his home and in the company of his family; and yet in spite of pleadings by his father that he would take [redacted] home the police still insisted on brutal tactics to display their lack of knowledge of our laws and also a good amount of sadism. We feel that, if the individual had not been of Mexican origin, the police would never have dared to act as they did! Yet it is still a general feeling amongst the police officers of this State that a "Mexican" does not have the same rights as his other fellowmen. b7c

Attorney General Brownell, we feel that we need the protection of our Federal Government in cases like this. We feel that we can always place our trust and our faith in our Federal Government. We feel that as loyal citizens we will receive American Justice. But please do not fail us, please send your best man to look into this matter. We have at least another case since then and several others in the past, but this one is such an unjust action by the police that it surprises us. The police department locally could stop this actions but the police department is not interested in justice for all they are merely interested in arrests and prosecutions whether they are illegal or not.

We have taken no local legal action in this case because we are waiting and will wait for your Department to help us. We feel that if the case warrants, prosecution of all the officers involved will serve to stop such future actions not only in Corpus Christi but in the State of Texas where they are still too common. I have several copies of the affidavit which I will be glad to submit to any of your Department members and others.

Again let me thank you and your Department for your very kind and nice attention in previous cases and please accept our thanks, respect, and admiration for the fine work that is being done by the Department of Justice.

Respectfully yours,

  
Hector P. Garcia, M.D.  
Chairman of Board of

Copy of Second Letter.

November 20, 1953

Honorable Herbert Brownell, Jr.  
Attorney General of the United States  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, 25, D.C.

Attn: Civil Rights Section

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/29/85 BY SP6/bja/lmw

Dear Attorney General Brownell:

On November 8, 1953 we requested your Department of the Civil Rights Section to look into the matter of the [REDACTED]. We have received your letter dated Nov. 16th, 1953 for which we wish to thank you. [REDACTED]

We again wish to thank you for your attention to the case and in view of the new case we hope that your Dept. will take action as soon as possible. [REDACTED]

This is the [REDACTED] which we are respectfully requesting the Civil Rights Section of your Dept. to investigate. As I mentioned in my previous letter something must be done to stop the local police from violating the rights of the Spanish Speaking-American Citizens of this city. Such brutal and sadistic actions by the police departments of certain cities in this State have become practically accustomed and accepted tactics by police officers based mostly on the fact that our people have been unable to defend themselves or express their feelings. This case is a clear cut case of police brutality and sadism employing "third degree" methods on a boy who was helpless in their hands. [REDACTED]

Let me again assure that this is not an isolated case but happens with too frequently to satisfy us. The [REDACTED] CASE of last year was one of the most brutal cases of beatings that any man received at the hands of police officers. We wish that this type of brutality could be stopped. Incidentally I

-2- Nov. 20, 1953

(Cont).

took [redacted] to the local F.B.I. office to show your very nice and courteous and attentive agent the marks on [redacted] body. b7c

The American People of Mexican Origin are feeling somewhat perturbed about the frequency of police brutality and sadism against our people. In this case we would like to point out that the boy in spite of his age was taken to the City Jail where he was beaten up. We would like to point out that not any formal charges were filed against him and that he was held in the children shelter as a prisoner and held incommunicado since his mother was refused permission to talk to him. I would like to point out that the boy was held for more than one and a half day in spite of the fact that he did not confess. It seems to me that if the police suspected him and they did, because of the pictures they had; it seems that they should have had a warrant for arrest which they did not. It seems to me that they had no right to beat him up at all; and that he should have been brought before a magistrate and also a Doctor which they did not. Incidentally this frequency of arrests without warrant is one of the pet moves of the local police department.

We would like to mention in passing that two very suspicious deaths have occurred in so called "drunk's tank" in the city jail. This suspicious tank or cell is supposed to be special cell for drunks but two mysterious deaths in those tanks have caused newspapers in this area to point out the fact that perhaps the tank may serve other purposes.

We would again like to request you to investigate this case as soon as possible in order to prevent other recurrences of police brutality. We believe that if nothing is done the city police may think that they are working within their rights and will encourage them to be more brutal and sadistic. We are sorry to burden your F.B.I. offices with our problems, but the Veteran's organization is very proud of your fine work in combatting the Communist infiltration in our government and in our country. We are proud of your work and we ask you to keep it up until our country is rid of this menace. We wish to congratulate Mr. Hoover for his fine work in protecting our country in time of peace and in time of war.

We have faith that these two cases may bring an investigation from your Department since they are so close to each other. We are hoping that action is taken to stop any future action. We wish to thank you again for your help, attention, and courtesies. Please let us know if we can be of any help at any time.

Sincerely yours,

  
Hector P. Garcia M.D.

Chairman Board of Directors American  
G.I. Forum

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following article appeared on the Corpus Christi Caller, on the date of November 19, 1953 (Thursday).

**RAMON GONZALES, 18, CHARGED WITH BURGLARY**

Ramon Gonzales, 18, of 1612 Coleman, was charged yesterday with burglary of Sanchez Drive Inn, 2102 Laredo, on Oct. 22.

The complaint was signed by City Detective L. E. Melton and filed in Justice of the Peace W. A. Gilleland's court.

Records in the office of Dist. Atty. J. D. Todd, Jr., showed that Gonzales was placed on probation for five years last April 7 on a burglary charge.

[REDACTED] b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/08/85 BY SP6kja/lmw



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-376414)

DATE: October 27, 1954

FROM : SAC, Dallas

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

**SUBJECT :**

DECLASSIFIED BY

ON

# American GI Forum

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 10/10/54

in addition, has been in attendance at meetings of the American GI Forum, which was recently organized in Dallas, Texas. [REDACTED] contemplates joining this organization which, according to [REDACTED], is the target for Communist Party infiltration at the present time.

Accordingly, it is requested that approval for the

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RECORDED-99

November 25, 1953

INDEXED-99  
EX-124

62-96541-12

Dr. Hector P. Garcia  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
American GI Forum of Texas  
3024 Morgan Avenue  
Corpus Christi, Texas

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/29/85 BY SP6 Bja/1mw

Dear Dr. Garcia:

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated November 20, 1953, together with the attachments therewith and to express my appreciation for your kind remarks regarding the work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Regarding the matters which you inquired about, I wish to advise that the [redacted] is presently under investigation and the information furnished by you regarding the [redacted] has been forwarded to the Department of Justice for an opinion. In the event you desire additional information regarding these matters, I would suggest that you communicate directly with Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney III of the Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

I appreciate your bringing this situation to my attention and in the event you desire to furnish additional information, please feel free to contact the Special Agent in Charge of our Houston Office, 621 Niles Esperson Building, Houston 2, Texas.

COMM - FBI

NOV 27 1953

MAILED 27

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc: Mr. Nichols

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: The attachments were removed in order that copies could be made to furnish to the Houston Division and to the Department. Matters referred to by complainant are cases entitled [redacted] and [redacted]

mk:mrs:ugh  
63 DEC 15 1953

(Note continued next page)

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